

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	8333	Agenda Number	9.
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Meeting Date:	8/25/2011	Department:	Economic Growth and Redevelopment
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Subject

Approve an application and related resolution for submission to the Capital Area Texas Sustainability (CATS) Consortium for selection of an official Demonstration Site for the Sustainable Places Project.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:	
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Prior Council Action:	<p>August 19, 2010 - Council authorized participation in the Central Texas regional consortium which applied to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for a joint HUD, Department of Transportation and Department of Energy Sustainability Regional Planning Grant.</p> <p>May 12, 2011 - Council authorized negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement with CAPCOG, a budget amendment to accept \$1,901,040 from HUD through CAPCOG for the Sustainable Places Project, and negotiation and execution of three contracts with IBM for goods and services related to the Sustainable Places Analytic Tool in the total amount of \$1,818,000.</p>
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For More Information:	Kevin Johns, Director / EGRSO, 974-7802; Greg Kiloh, Project Manager / EGRSO, 974-7836
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Boards and Commission Action:	
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MBE / WBE:	
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

In October 2010, the Capital Area Texas Sustainability (CATS) Consortium received a Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of \$3,700,000 for the Sustainable Places Project. One component of the proposed Sustainable Places Project (SPP) is to do focused local planning at various Demonstration Sites in the 5 County Austin MSA. Each participating municipality in the region must apply for Demonstration Sites to receive consulting services for the focused planning areas. These Demonstration Sites will be designed to meet the Livability Principles of the Federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities and other goals identified by the CATS Consortium. The Sustainable Places Analytics Tool to be developed as part of the SPP will be applied to the selected Demonstration Sites to inform the planning process and provide metrics to demonstrate the application of the Livability Principles and local goals. Public engagement, the third strategy of the SPP, will be used to ensure local stakeholders have input into the process.

Demonstration Sites must be primarily located in CAMPO 2035 Activity Centers. Austin contains 13 of 37 CAMPO Activity Centers, but most have already had planning completed previously. It is City staff's intention to apply the Sustainable Places Analytic Tool on some of the previously planned Activity Centers, and Imagine Austin Comprehensive Plan elements individually during and after tool development.

City Staff has prepared an application for The Austin Urban Rail Program, located within the Central Austin and Mueller Activity Centers to examine development potential and sustainability metrics associated with the Urban Rail investment. The deadline for submission is August 31, 2011. The attached Resolution commits the City of Austin to support the Demonstration Site with in-kind services if selected. The City of Austin has already made this commitment through participation in the CATS consortium.